

percent of our seniors that depend on the money coming in from Social Security. So it scares the heck out of seniors when anybody suggests, that somebody is going to change Social Security.

Here are the facts: Social Security is going broke. Fifty years ago we had 40 workers for every one retiree. Today, there are three workers paying in their tax for every one retiree. The actuaries estimate that by 2025 there will be two workers paying in for every retiree. And by 2040 there will be one worker for each retiree. Can you imagine the taxes and the burden on that one worker, paying in Social Security, enough taxes to cover the Social Security benefits of one retiree? There is going to be a huge unfunded cost and the burden should not be placed on future taxpayers.

Look. Nobody is going to suggest that we stop our commitment of paying Social Security benefits. So this trust fund is only a booking record of the mandate to come up with the money, starting in 2014 or 2015 or 2016. The only way to come up with the money is to either increase taxes or reduce benefits or increase borrowing. Increasing borrowing is the most politically likely to put our kids even further in debt. It is going to cost a lot of money; there is now an unfunded liability of \$9 trillion in today's dollars of the benefits that are needed to pay Social Security benefits over the next 75 years over and above what is going to come in from the FICA tax. We need to deal with it but it depends on how we deal with it. Do you do nothing? And if you do nothing, the cost is going to be substantially greater than doing something and getting a better return on some of that money paid into Social Security.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me just say that the average retiree is going to get a 1.7 percent return on the money that they and their employer invested in Social Security. We can do better than that. There needs to be a transition to earn more for the program rather than demagoguing. Let us come up with ideas and suggestions rather than playing politics, because it is a program that is worth saving.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

From the blood-stained lintels, You, Almighty God, led the Jewish people through the doors of freedom to the desert. By the Spirit, Jesus was led into the desert to discover You in prayer and fasting.

Be with the Members of Congress and draw them into the emptiness of imagining and desire where You, our mysterious Lord, always siren Your people. Total dependency upon You, symbolized by the desert, either lifts one beyond present blindness or drowns one in the abandonment of spirit.

As You lead the leaders of this Nation and other nations forward, may the American people follow with all their struggling questions of faith. Bring peaceful agreement to the holy and ancient lands of the Middle East in Your own way, in Your own time, by Your own direction.

In You we place our trust, now and forever. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CHABOT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### PRIVATE CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is the day for the call of the Private Calendar. The Clerk will call the bill on the Private Calendar.

#### NANCY B. WILSON

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 392) for the relief of Nancy B. Wilson.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be passed over without prejudice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This concludes the call of the Private Calendar.

#### MARRIAGE AND SELF-ESTEEM

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, there is a lot of talk these days about self-esteem. We do not want children to have low self-esteem. Whole curricula are developed about how to increase children's self-esteem.

The truth is, marriage is one of the best mental health programs for children and adults. Children born or raised outside of marriage are more likely to suffer mental health problems, such as depression. Children whose parents are not married have lower school attendance, lower school performance.

Teenagers whose parents are divorced are also more likely to have problems with substance abuse than children whose parents are married.

Married adults are significantly less likely to suffer from the problems of alcoholism and depression than non-married adults.

Mr. Speaker, I am not a mental health expert, but it seems to me that encouraging healthy marriages is a whole lot cheaper and more effective than picking up the pieces of broken marriages after it is too late.

#### IT IS TIME TO STAND UP FOR AMERICAN JOBS AND AMERICAN STEEL

(Mr. SANDLIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, it is time to stand up for American families. It is time to stand up for American jobs. It is time to stand up in this country for American steel.

Already, 30 American steel companies have declared bankruptcy, and 47,000 American steelworkers have lost their jobs. Why has that happened? The International Trade Commission has determined that trade violations and steel dumping by foreign countries have caused these losses.

Tomorrow, the administration will decide what needs to be done to punish these foreign offenders. Apparently, the administration is considering an ineffective 30 percent tariff and total exemptions for a number of foreign countries. That simply will not work. Ask the domestic steel industry; ask the steelworkers.

Let us protect American jobs. A 40 percent tariff will protect our domestic industry and provide security to American families. We expect American families and American workers to work hard and to play by the rules. We should expect the same from our foreign trading partners.

#### HOW MANY TERRORIST OPPORTUNITIES WILL YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROVIDE?

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, proponents of transporting 77,000 tons of